

And the winner of the 2010 Earth Day T-shirt design contest is...

Elizabeth Fullmer! Elizabeth is from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Auburn area. Since 1993, this group has cleaned S 288th Street from 32nd Avenue S to 51st Avenue S. Her submission will be the basis for this year's shirt. Congratulations Elizabeth!

Her winning design:



It was a difficult choice and we received several outstanding entries. A big THANK YOU to all who submitted a design:

- Maggie Wheatley
- Tabatha Shiley
- Bradley Gray
- Jillian Aman
- Allan Gosnell
- Larry Crandall



Heritage Corridor spotlight: the Osceola Loop

King County's *Historic and Scenic Corridors Project* has identified nine historic and scenic corridors in the county. This month's newsletter focuses on one of these corridors (which also happens to be an Adopt-A-Road route) – the Osceola Loop near Enumclaw. The following are excerpts from the final report regarding the history and character of the route.

Location: Southeast King County, Enumclaw Plateau
Length: 7.2 Miles
Begins: SE 448th Street at 196th Avenue SE
Ends: Point of beginning

The Osceola Loop Heritage Corridor on historic Porter's Prairie includes the oldest road in the

Heritage Corridor system. Two historic schools and a pickle factory mark the former agricultural crossroads of Osceola, established in 1877.



The south edge of the Enumclaw Plateau bordering on the White River is an area of very early settlement in King County. Porter's Prairie, claimed by Allen Porter in 1853, was criss-crossed with both trails and rudimentary roads that show up on General Land Office (GLO) maps and early atlases of King County.



Looking east towards 228th
Courtesy King County Archives

Logging was a first priority and numerous portable mills traversed the area. Porter's Prairie was renamed Osceola when a post office was established there in 1877. SE 456th Way is one of the earliest in the Plateau's network of community connectors. According to GLO records, a portion of it was in use as early as 1867.

The west end of the 456th was established as the F. Sunding Road No. 292 in 1891. By 1913, this entire southern leg of the Osceola Loop was in place in its current configuration. During this period, the Enumclaw Plateau developed as a prime agricultural district of King County.

Small, ethnic settlements across the Plateau declined in identity as Enumclaw, with the advantage of a Northern Pacific Railroad siding, grew in commercial importance. Subsistence farming gave way to hop ranching, followed by diversification in berries, vegetables, and poultry. Dairy farming predominated for nearly a century, and is still in evidence today.

Today, a portion of the Osceola Loop on SE 448th Street between SE 196th Avenue SE and 244th Avenue SE is adopted by the **Giveback Group**. The group has done a great job of keeping this route clean since 2008. The south section of the Loop (SE 456th Way), however, remains open for adoption. If you know someone who would like to care for this historic road, please have them contact the Community Partnerships Assistant at 206-296-3807!



Ever wanted to know the history of Adopt-A-Road? King County Road Services' Adopt-A-Road program is currently celebrating its 20th year of operation - congratulations to all of our volunteer friends who have made the journey with us! The following is a brief history of the program, compiled from our records.

King County's Adopt-A-Road Program was established in 1990 with the vision of "offering community service to county residents, providing recognition for their efforts and helping beautify the county." The first roadside cleanup took place in September 1991 when Boy Scout Troop 481 cleaned a section of Lake Holm Road in southwest King County, and the program quickly grew in popularity. By the end of 1994, Adopt-A-Road had grown to 119 groups that had completed over 7000 total hours of service.

During the mid to late 1990's, Adopt-A-Road continued to develop and expand. In 1997, the first volunteer orientation packet was developed along with the Web Page. Soon after, applications and forms become available online, along with a roster of volunteer groups and locator numbers, and updated statistics and cleanup photos. By the end of 1998, the program had grown to 174 volunteer groups with a total of 375 miles of road adopted.

In 2001, the program initiated a recycling pilot program and began developing the Landscape Enhancement Program, which officially launched in 2003. 2003 also saw the debut of the current Adopt-A-Road roadway recognition sign. By the summer of 2004, the program had grown to 223 volunteer groups.

In the last few years, the program has continued its history of developing innovative practices. In 2007, a new Geographic Information System (GIS) was put in place, and recent developments include a safety orientation video, as well as a GIS-based, live-updated map available on the Adopt-A-Road Web Page. As of December 2009, there are now 264 volunteer groups with 478 miles of adopted road. Since 1991, volunteers have collected more than 24,300 bags of trash and completed more than 78,100 hours of service. The 26 Adopt-A-Road groups with 15 or more years of service (right) are a testament to the incredible commitment and civic pride of its volunteers.

Amazing Dedication! Groups with 15+ years of service

- Lake Desire Community Club
- Southend Vashon Island Community Club
- Hollywood Hill Association
- Good Samaritan Episcopal Church
- Vashon-Maury Island Audubon Group
- Carnation Friends of the Library
- Emerald City Wanderers
- The Carnation Farm
- Boy Scout Troop #294
- Wooden Cross Lutheran Church
- Alliance Bible Church of Tahoma
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Boy Scout Troop #711
- St. John The Baptist - Youth Groups
- Tahoma High School FBLA and NHS
- Covington Water District
- Issaquah 3rd Ward, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
- Vincent Community Club
- Vashon Gay Pride Alliance
- Green River Steelhead Trout Group
- The Overlake School
- Vintage Motorcycle Enthusiasts
- Green Valley Neighbor's Club
- Cedarcrest High School NHS
- Lake Joy Community Club
- Covington Girl Scout Troop #1729

'Every one of us can do something to protect and care for our planet. We should live in a way that makes a future possible.
- Thich Nhat Hanh

2010 Volunteer Satisfaction Survey

Have your say! The Adopt-A-Road program is genuinely interested in making your volunteer experience as enjoyable and rewarding as possible. Please help us to improve the program by taking a few minutes to fill out the enclosed survey. An online version of the survey is also available on the Adopt-A-Road Web Page at www.kingcounty.gov/adoptaroad

With your help, we hope to use the feedback from this survey to adjust the program's outreach, training and service delivery aspects to better meet the needs of volunteers.

If you have any difficulty completing the survey, please contact the Community Partnerships Assistant at 206-296-3807 or by e-mail at adopt.roads@kingcounty.gov
Thanks very much for your time and commitment to the program!

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Let King County show you how

Get great green tips on how to...

- Reduce, re-use and recycle
- Volunteer
- Green up your ride
- Reduce your carbon footprint
- Make your home and garden green

www.kingcounty.gov/beinggreen

**Order your Earth Day t-shirts by March 1
Don't miss out!**

Litter-A-Ture

News from King County Adopt-A-Road
A program of the Department of Transportation
Road Services Division

Spring 2010

Happy Earth Day!

It's that time of year to begin thinking about Earth Day!

King County Adopt-A-Road celebrates Earth Day during the entire month of April. This is a great time to get your group together for a cleanup, and help the environment.

To honor your efforts, we will provide a limited number of commemorative shirts for volunteers who participate in Earth Day cleanups. Please use the form, located inside, to schedule your Earth Day cleanup and order your shirts. Return it to Christian Pond by **Monday, March 1, 2010**. *Supplies are first-come, first-served and limited.*

If it's unknown, leave it alone!

King County Road Services Division would like to remind all volunteers that some items you may encounter while cleaning up a roadside could pose a threat to your health or safety. Sometimes those threats are obvious, like used syringes. However, some threats are not so obvious. This is often the case when you find a container with contents you cannot identify.



If you are in doubt about something you find on an Adopt-A-Road cleanup, do not touch the material. Leave the area immediately and report the item to the King County Roads 24-hour Helpline at 206-296-8100.

The photo above shows a Washington State Department of Ecology employee in the process of inspecting a set of unknown containers that were recently collected by an Adopt-a-Road group not following the above rule. A hazard categorization determined that all three buckets contained human waste. The level of protective equipment he is wearing is a great example of why Adopt-a-Road volunteers should leave unknown items alone. Thank you for your continued efforts to clean up our communities while keeping yourself and your group members safe!



Earth Day
April 22, 2010
Schedule your cleanup
now!



Contacts:

Christian Pond
Community Partnerships
Assistant
Newsletter Editor

Ruth Harvey
Program Manager

206-296-3807
Adopt.Roads@kingcounty.gov
www.kingcounty.gov/roads



King County
Road Services Division
Department of Transportation

Adopt-A-Road Program
KSC-TR-0317
201 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104-3856